

# Public Workshops Summary

February 2020

## 1 Workshop Overview

The City of Newark Planning & Development Department has made significant technological improvements to parking access and wayfinding and has retained a consultant, Kimley-Horn, to explore various strategies that maximize the benefits of this technology for residents, business owners, and the public.

The City wishes to take an innovative, urban-centric approach to parking in Downtown Newark that will benefit each of the various user groups as well help increase availability at different times of the day. Additionally, a review of zoning codes will also be conducted to support required changes necessary to meet the goals of the City's parking program. Cumulatively, this work will support the vibrant character of Downtown Newark and be a catalyst for exciting new development, while maintaining and enhancing quality of life for Newark residents.

The first public workshop of the Newark Downtown Parking Plan took place on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce the plan process to the community, provide updates on the history of parking management in Newark and where the City is today, and to invite ideas and feedback from the community. For convenience, the workshop was held at two times, one in the morning and one in the afternoon in the City Council Chamber. The evening workshop was extended an hour from 6 PM to 7 PM due input from the community prior the event.



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### Meeting Date and Times

**Tuesday, February 25**  
**Time 1: 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM**  
**Time 2: 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

### Meeting Location

City of Newark  
Council Chamber  
220 S. Main Street

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## 2 Workshop Format

In order to facilitate an active discussion, the City and Kimley-Horn chose a drop-in open house format in which participants were invited to informally discuss information being presented. Information was organized into three stations: policy, technology, and operations.

In lieu of a formal presentation, one or more team members were assigned to a station to serve as the content expert, introduce attendees to the ins and outs of parking in Newark, provide background information, explain the meeting's purpose, and answer questions specific to that station. To capture the public's comments, mobile dry erase boards were utilized. A list of the comments can be found in Section 5.





## 2.1 Materials

Station/Item	Information Displayed
<b>Operations Station</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Charts of parking revenue, fines, and enforcement data</li> <li>Residential parking permit program</li> <li>Business parking coupon information</li> </ul>
<b>Parking Policy Station</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Display boards of ongoing or planned developments</li> <li>Main Street Improvements project information</li> <li>Large format map of existing parking</li> </ul>
<b>Technology Station</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants were able to test out new parking technology with the help of a facilitator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GIS parking map on city website</li> <li>Passport web app</li> <li>Passport kiosks</li> </ul> </li> <li>Example parking wayfinding</li> </ul>
<b>Informational handout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11x17 folded format</li> <li>Contents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workshop overview</li> <li>Matrix of parking implementation strategies</li> <li>Benefits of parking management</li> <li>Call-out for City GIS map and smartphone integration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



A Comprehensive Parking Solution			
<p>The result of two years of review, workshops, and public involvement, <b>A Bold New Future for Newark: A Comprehensive Parking Solution</b> (2018) outlined a vision for an integrated and holistic approach to parking management in Newark. Organized around seven strategic issues, the plan introduces short-, mid-, and long-term parking policy solutions, include parking management, shared parking agreements, potential partnerships with the University of Delaware and shuttle operations. The matrix shown here briefly summarizes those solutions and outlines the implementation progress that has been made to date.</p>			
<p><b>Key:</b>   Implementation Complete   Implementation In-Progress   The City has retained Kimley-Horn for implementation of these parking solutions.</p>			
	Phase 1 – Short-term	Phase 2 – Mid-term	Phase 3 – Long-term
<b>Parking Distribution &amp; Availability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear, updated signage with real-time parking information</li> <li>Linking GIS real-time parking information with the City's website</li> </ul>	Development of a smartphone app to show real-time parking info throughout Downtown	
<b>Parking Perception</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote new parking information and app</li> </ul>	Demonstrate how parking updates/changes contribute to a thriving Downtown	Downtown circular bus route
<b>Zoning Code</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research how zoning code can be updated for smarter parking management</li> </ul>	Create parking districts that reflect the needs of a changing community	
<b>Stormwater</b>		Change or remove some mandated parking requirements	Centrally-located Downtown parking garage
<b>Employee Parking</b>	Negotiate lease with University of Delaware parking lots	Negotiate lease with private parking lot owners	
<b>Private Lots (Not City-owned)</b>	Review zoning codes and work with property owners to come up with creative solutions for private parking		
<b>Economics of Parking</b>		Change parking requirements for apartment buildings and complexes	Evaluate and recommend municipal parking rates

### 3 Workshop Promotion

Outreach for the workshop was key to allowing the community to receive project information and get engaged in the process. Kimley-Horn prepared a press release which the City distributed (<https://newarkde.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1295>).

The press release was picked up by the Newark Post: [https://www.newarkpostonline.com/news/newark-seeking-public-feedback-on-the-future-of-downtown-parking/article\\_6b49df4a-0b86-5055-88b0-b5475554eec0.html](https://www.newarkpostonline.com/news/newark-seeking-public-feedback-on-the-future-of-downtown-parking/article_6b49df4a-0b86-5055-88b0-b5475554eec0.html)

The City also created a flyer and set up Facebook events for the two workshop times.



### 4 Attendance

#### 4.1 Workshop Staff

##### City of Newark

- Mary Ellen Gray, AICP, Director of Planning and Development
- Michael Fortner, Planner
- Marvin Howard, Parking Manager
- Courtney Mulvanity, Parking Supervisor
- Ericka Morterud

##### Kimley-Horn

- Brian Bartholomew
- Michael Connor
- Jessica Lawless

#### 4.2 Participants

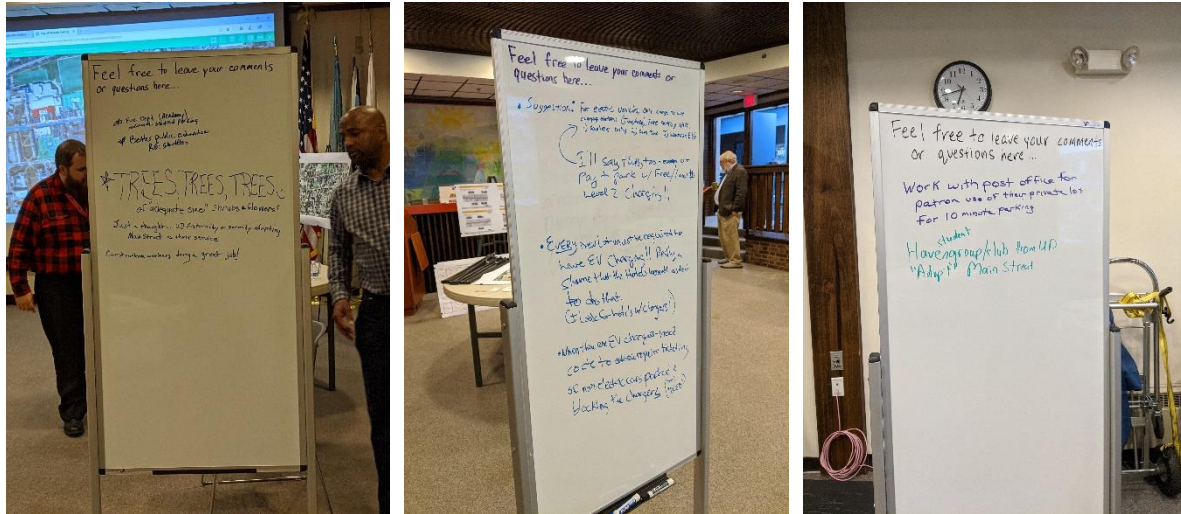
25 participants signed in at the workshops. Please see image on the following page.

Image: Sign-in Sheet

Sign In	
Name	Organization/Resident
1. Ken Grant	AAA - W.vely Hilly
2. Greg Hill	Citizen
3. Tyler Jacobson	54 E. MATH ST.
4. Jerry Davis	BIOPAS Management
5. Randall Myers	Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder
6. BRANDON HOLVERK	THE NEWS JOURNAL - WOODMERE
7. Dan Seadon	Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder
8. Ben Hamlin	66 E MAIN ST
9. Richard Stickley Jr	Resident 106 Taylors Ln
10. Alison Currie	Resident - Christiansburg
11. JED HARRIS	CPI
12. Matt Geogor	MR Investors/Independent Investors
13. Larry Monaghan	Resident - 24 E. Mill Station Dr
14. Kathy Monaghan	Resident " " " " "
15. Tim Filasky	NEWARK PARK
16. Heath Dunigan	WILMINGTON
17. FRANK MCINTOSH	NEWARK
18. KAZI ABDUS SANEH	NEWARK
19. Marion S. Weston	Resident - Newark
20. Will Hurd	Plan Comm
21. Lynn Anderson	Resident - DB
22. Andrew O'Donnell	Resident, David
23. Howard Smith	Resident
24. Mike Carney	BLUE HEN PARKING PARTNER
25. John D. Morgan	Resident
26.	



## 5 Comments



- Fire Dept. (Academy) informal shared parking
- Better public education regarding shuttles
- Trees, Trees, Trees of "adequate size" shrubs and flowers
- Just a thought ... UD Fraternity or sorority adopting Main Street as their service
- Construction workers doing a great job!
- Suggestion: For electric vehicles, only charge to use charging stations (time/rate). Free parking space. 1) simplifies billing 2) saves time 3) incentivizes EVs
  - Reply to above: I'll say this, too or pay+ park w/ free/low\$ level 2 charging!!
- Every new lot must be required to have EV charging!! Really a shame that the hotels weren't asked to do that. (I look for hotels w/ chargers!)
- When there are EV chargers – need code to require ticketing of non-electric cars parked and blocking the chargers (see: "ICED")
- Work with post office for patron use of their private lot for 10-minute parking